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(Excerpt from Foreign Ministry File)

The Third Administrative Policy Toward North China.

Determined by the Ministries Concerned on February 20, 1937.

Excerpt from Foreign Ministry File
"Important Decisions Re
International and National Policies"

PLANS FOR GUIDING NORTH CHINA

(Decided by the Foreign, Finance, War and Naval Ministers)

16 April 1937

General Policy

1. The essence of the guidance of North China is to make the said area virtually a firm anti-Communistic pro-Manchu Japanese region, and also contribute to the acquisition of communicational facilities, thus partly preparing against the Red threat and partly forming a foundation for realizing the unity and mutual aid of Japan, Manchukuo and China.

2. In order to attain the above aims, for the present our first and main efforts will be in carrying out economical measures with the North China populace as object. When carrying out the above measures, besides internal guidance of the North China regime, the Nanking regime must be guided through policy applied to it to recognize the special position of North China, and to voluntarily cooperate to the policies of Sino-Manchu-Japanese unity and mutual aid.

Important Principles

1. Attitude in guiding North China.

It cannot be denied that our policy towards North China what with the geographical peculiarities of the region, has not infrequently in the past given "the erroneous impression to China and other powers that our Empire has the intentions of enlarging the truce zone, advancing the frontier of Manchukuo or else realizing the independence of North China. So in future policy towards North China, together with strict precautions against actions which may arouse such unnecessary misinterpretations, it is vitally important to attend solely to the execution of cultural and economic measures having as main objects secure and facile life and work for the North China populace, thus contributing to the achievement of our expected aims."

In developing North China culturally and economically, we must strive to assume a liberal attitude and labor for a free expansion of civilian capital; together with that; it is necessary to deal with an understanding manner, the demands of the Hopei-Chahar or the Nanking regimes which can be considered pertinent or understandable from the view of "face". Concerning the problems of special trade in the Hopei-Shantung area and unrestricted flying in North China, speedy solutions must be planned.

2. Guidance of the Hopei-Chahar regime.

In guiding the Hopei-Chahar regime, the most open and upright attitude must be maintained, and it is especially necessary to strive to win the people's goodwill by liquidating militaristic misrule of finance, economics, military affairs and all other matters, thus constructing a healthy region.

3. Guidance of the Hopei-Shantung Autonomous Government.

In guiding the Hopei-Shantung Autonomous Government the improvement of its internal administration shall be especially endeavored, and together with all out development of industry, it shall be made into a model region of safe and easy life and work, truly free from militaristic exploitation and misrule,

thus endeavoring to realize as concrete facts, our Empire's just and equitable true will.

In the above policies, it must be considered that the Hopei-Shantung Autonomous Government cannot exist solely by itself, and it is necessary not to exact any measures which may be an obstacle in guiding the various regimes of North China.

4. Guidance of the Shantung Shansi and Suiyuan regimes.

The chief view in policy towards these regimes, especially that of Shantung, is to, by the gradual execution of cultural and economical measures with Sino-Manchu-Japanese fusion and unity as its aim, make still more firm the joint connections between them and our Empire. In the above policy the most open and upright attitude shall be maintained, and it is necessary to avoid political measures which may be feared might only excite the populace's emotions and give the Chinese excuses for anti-Japanese moves.

5. General lines for economical development.

The aims of economical development of North China is, together with promoting our interests which advocates the free advance of civilian capital, to invite Chinese capital also, thus constructing as inseparable Sino-Japanese situation based on the economical profits of Chinese and Japanese in accord, and to contribute to the maintenance of North China's pro-Japanese attitude both in peacetime and in war. Especially the development of those military resources vital to national defence (iron, coal, salt, etc.) and the establishments of communications, electricity, etc., connected to this shall be speedily realized, by special capital if necessary.

In the economical development, together with making the third powers respect our special position and interests in North China, their interests shall be respected, and if necessary projects will be made jointly or their capital and material utilized, thus, unity and mutual aid with them, especially Great Britain and the U.S.A., shall be considered also.